

## Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



*University Stations*

4-H CLOTHING CLUBS\*

Excerpts from 1933 Annual Reports of State and County Extension Agents

Prepared by Extension Studies and Teaching Section

Contents

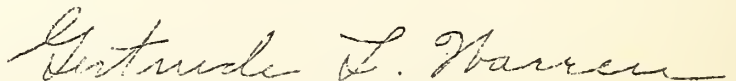
	Page		Page
Foreword .....	2	Montana .....	12
Alabama .....	3	Nebraska .....	13
Colorado .....	4	New Hampshire .....	14
Connecticut .....	5	New Jersey .....	18
Iowa .....	6	North Carolina .....	18
Kansas .....	8	North Dakota .....	19
Louisiana .....	9	Rhode Island .....	20
Maryland .....	10	Texas .....	21
Massachusetts .....	11	Utah .....	24
Minnesota .....	11	Virginia .....	25
Mississippi .....	12		

\*No attempt is made to cite all references to 4-H clothing clubs in this circular. Only selected extracts showing typical methods employed and results obtained in a number of States are included.

DISTRIBUTION: A copy of this circular has been sent to each State extension director; State leader in home demonstration work; State and assistant State leader in 4-H club work; clothing specialist; agricultural-college library; and experiment-station library.

F O R E W O R D

Inasmuch as in 4-H clothing-club work during 1933, 325,000 farm girls and boys were enrolled - being by far the largest enrollment in any 4-H project activity - it is particularly important that the objectives, organization, and methods of procedure conform to the best-known facts both from the standpoint of home-economics subject matter and of educational method. In addition, it is important, especially during such times as these, that 4-H club programs be economically and socially as sound as possible. From all these standpoints, the attached material, selected from the 1933 annual reports, should prove helpful in gaining a broad knowledge of the content, methods, and procedures used in 4-H clothing-club work throughout the United States. Moreover, this material should prove particularly helpful in furnishing county extension agents and local club leaders with constructive program suggestions which, in turn, will appeal to the different age groups and will aid in developing desirable attitudes and appreciations as well as abilities or skills in the various phases of 4-H clothing-club work.



Gertrude L. Warren,  
Organization, 4-H Club Work.

Alabama

Sack-dress revue:

At the State Short Course for 4-H Girls, the sack-dress revue consisted of 50 girls out of 85, representing different counties from over the State. Some of the dresses were white, trimmed with different colors, or buttons, and the others were dyed.

Most of the dresses were designed for sports wear, with hats and purses to match. All of them were lovely outfits, and all the girls looked well in them.

The cost of the dresses ranged from below five cents to twenty-five cents.  
Dorothy Dean, Clothing and Handicraft, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn.

Fifty percent of the 260 girls engaged in 4-H club work in Bullock County selected clothing as their major project for the year. Financial conditions, however, have been such that the girls were unable to keep on hand materials with which to work. But this did not stop them.

Each year there is a certain amount of fertilizer and commercial feed bought for the farm, and as sugar, salt, and flour are necessities, much of these products are bought as well. Because of this, many of the Bullock County club girls were kept in sewing materials during the year. Before club work was established in the county, fertilizer and feed sacks were left in the field or stables, and the flour and sugar sacks were carelessly thrown around the house. When the girls were told last spring that these sacks could be used in making their clothes and household linens, there was no response. In Mascott and Comy communities, club work was just beginning. The girls "sniggled" when they were told to bring clean sacks to their next meeting. But that "sniggle" changed into a smile before long. Just as the women learned to bleach and clean the sacks, so did the girls. The girls went much farther in the matter than the women did by dyeing and tinting. They studied the color charts closely and learned just what colors would be suitable together, and what colors to use in dyeing their dresses to suit the individual and the occasion for which the dress was to be used.

From sacks 15 dresses, 22 slips, 17 pantee and brassiere sets, 12 pairs of bloomers, 32 aprons, and 18 cup towels were made. Also, 4 luncheon sets, 10 pairs of pillow slips, and 19 table runners were made from sacks.

E. D. Ray, Home Demonstration Agent (Negro), Union Springs, Bullock Co.

The following story was written by Ethel Louise Hardy, Mt. Sinai 4-H club girl and local leader, Route 3, Box 58 A, Prattville, Ala.

"When I joined the 4-H club in my community 4 years ago, I took clothing as my project. I continued to learn to sew better each year because my

ambition has always been to sew. I soon started learning to use patterns. Now I do the sewing for nearly half the people in my community. Often the people for whom I sewed had no money with which to pay me. From such persons, I accepted poultry and hogs for pay. By doing this I was able to hold several of my customers who did not have money.

"Since I have been sewing for the people in my community, their clothes fit them much better. The women and girls appear neater, and so do the children.

"During the summer, our State supervisor for colored schools (in the State of Alabama) asked the home demonstration agent of our county to select a girl who was good at sewing and making attractive garments from flour, sugar, and cotton bags, as well as from material purchased from the store. The supervisor wanted such a girl to assist her in making simple garments, using cotton bags for most of the work. To my surprise my home agent selected me. I spent 2 weeks in Montgomery, Ala., helping the supervisor to sew. During the time I spent there she took me to the State Teachers' College for several visits. I thought this a good chance to advertise my work, and I did. Before my 2 weeks were out, four of the teachers at the college asked me to make a dress for them. The dresses were simple. I received 1 dollar per dress. The supervisor paid me \$7.50 and room and board for the work I did for her.

"During the entire year, I have made such garments as men's shirts, blouses, dresses, hats for women and girls, undergarments of all descriptions, spring coats, robes for our choir members, minstrel suits for the boys at the County Training School, aprons, towels, sheets, and pillowcases. I have altered 59 old dresses.

"For all of this work I received \$85.75. I am using the money to pay for my schooling at the County Training School here. I make my expenses every year by sewing.

"Beside sewing for profit, I have taught 11 girls of my community club to cut and construct garments and to alter patterns. I am striving to complete the course in sewing. We do not have a home-economics teacher in our school, but I feel that those of us who have followed the demonstrations and instructions of the home agent have not been losers."

Leon V. Battle, Home Demonstration Agent (Negro), Prattville,  
Autauga Co.

### Colorado

In many counties we found that 4-H club girls were compelled to discontinue clothing-club work on account of not having the funds to purchase material. Arrangements were made with the St. Louis office of the American Red Cross so that these girls could secure Red Cross cloth.

We found many of the club girls accepting the cloth. There were several



things accomplished:

1. The girls were enabled to continue with their club work and to learn how to sew.
2. They did not feel that they were on charity, as they were making their own clothes.
3. This plan assisted the American Red Cross in taking care of the needy.

C. W. Ferguson, State Club Agent, State Agricultural College of Colorado, Fort Collins.

### Connecticut

#### Outline for Clothing Clubs

Slogan - "Every club girl her own best demonstration"

Unit I - The sewing Kit.

Unit II - Summer outfit.

Unit III - Spring or fall outfit.

Unit IV - The 4-H club girl complete.

Unit A - Neat club-girl Demonstration.

Unit B - "Handy housekeeper."

Unit C - "The Spic-Span Maid."

Unit D - The prettier-room demonstration.

Unit E - Making Christmas gifts.

Unit F - Keeping a Clothing Account.

The year's program should include:

1. The rendering of some service to others.
2. Some health programs and adopting some health goals.
3. Practice in judging and selection of members to represent club in interclub contests.
4. A demonstration team.
5. An exhibit and achievement day.
6. Annual reports.

Taken from Connecticut 4-H clothing-club literature attached to annual report.

The subject-matter teaching of the 4-H clothing program was done by the leaders and their assistants. The leaders were guided by a leader's manual compiled by the assistant State club leader and the specialist. The clothing specialist prepared the mimeographed directions for the articles included in the clothing program for 5 years. These directions were revised as needed to keep the information up to date and timely.

Ellen Van Cleef, Extension Clothing Specialist, Connecticut  
Agricultural College, Storrs.

Iowa

Purpose of 4-H clothing work in Cedar County:

To give the rural girls an organization of their own, guided by understanding adults, through which girls may learn to -

1. Appreciate rural life.
2. Develop self-confidence.
3. Work with the adult organization.
4. Have worth-while good times together.
5. Make their own clothing attractive and practical, and help other members in the home in clothing construction.

County goals -

1. To strengthen the six clubs under way and to organize two new ones.
2. To conduct the following county-wide days:
  - a. Rally day early in June (music memory contest).
  - b. Achievement day in August.
  - c. County fair in August.
  - d. County health contest.

3. Cedar County to be represented at the following State-wide events:

State Fair, Des Moines.  
Mississippi Valley Fair, Davenport.  
State 4-H Convention, Ames.

4. County 4-H girls' report to be given at the annual county farm bureau meeting by county club chairman and 4-H president.

Club goals:

Each club to -

1. Have charge of one township farm-bureau program and put on a program of club nature.



2. Take part in all club activities, 100 percent.
3. Send delegate and leader to the State convention at Ames in June.
4. Have program and enrollment cards in the farm-bureau office by January 1, 1932; all reports in farm-bureau office each month.
5. Become a standard Iowa 4-H Club.

Individual goals:

Each girl to -

1. Make work box or bag, and tools for sewing.
2. Make over one garment and to make one garment from material not purchased.
3. Become familiar with the "music-memory" numbers.
4. Have a health examination and improve her health.
5. Keep her record book, and hand in to leader by October 1.
6. Own and wear on occasion her club uniform and approved shoes.
7. Check up on herself with the Iowa "measuring stick."

Eighty girls were enrolled in the 4-H first-year clothing club. These members were enrolled in six different club groups, reaching 12 townships in Cedar County. Ten local leaders and assistant leaders helped with the club work. Five girls dropped out during the year and seventy-five completed the work. Thirty-two local club meetings were held with 310 in attendance. Five clubs entered the county style show with 50 girls competing. Hilda Von Behren, Mechanicsville, was the winner in the style show. A Rally-Day program was held with 100 people present.

Emmett C. Gardner, County Agent, Tipton, Cedar Co.

#### Well-Groomed-Girl Contest

Twenty-two of the twenty-nine clothing counties were represented in the "best-groomed-girl" contest. The average number of years of these girls in club work was 4, the longest period was 9 years, and one girl has been in club work this year only.

The judges met the girls on three occasions, each time checking closely on teeth, hair, skin, shoes, hose, becomingness of dress, accessories, posture, and so forth.

The most interesting thing to note was the marked improvement after the first day. Shoes were shined, faces and hands were clean, hair was brushed, and uniforms and dresses were pressed, until every member was an example of a well-groomed girl.

Josephine Bakke and Others, Girls' Club Leaders, Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Ames.

During the past year the specialist held subject-matter training schools in 19 clothing-club counties, with 54 committee women, 227 leaders and assistants, and 195 girls represented at these meetings.

Poweshiek County had a 100 percent representation of clubs at each training school. Mrs. Hudson, the county chairman, deserves much credit for the splendid way in which this county has carried on its club work.

Iowa County was 100 percent in attendance at two meetings, but one leader was absent for the third.

Attendance at the training schools varied from five, for the first meeting in Worth County, to nearly 50 at the second meeting, in Jasper County. Jasper County averaged over 30 for each meeting.

The six meetings in the 2-year clothing work included work on garment selection and construction, pattern alteration, children's clothes, selection and construction of accessories, remodeling, color and design, grooming, and care of clothes. The specialist has made much of the illustrative material used in teaching the various phases of clothing work.

Due to a shortage of help in the clothing department, no help on demonstrations was given this year by the specialist. Demonstration help was given in 18 clothing counties by members of the organization staff.

Josephine Bakke, Girls' Club Leader, Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Ames.

## Kansas

### 4-H Clothing Goals

Following are the goals set for this project:

1. To familiarize clothing leaders and clothing-project girls with the standards of:  
  
Clothing design.  
Clothing selection.  
Construction and care of clothing.
2. To have each girl study the ensemble or complete costume, and to adapt it to her use.
3. To familiarize each girl with the yearly clothing budget.
4. To encourage every girl to make an exhibit.
5. To encourage those girls qualified to enter the county preliminary for the State revue contest.

### Methods and Plans

Subject matter will be presented by the demonstration method at the regular community meetings. The detailed subject matter relating to project requirements will be presented at special project meetings called for the purpose.

The clothing specialist conducted district training schools for club leaders last fall for counties having a small enrollment. In some other counties she conducted county-wide training schools.

The clothing bulletin will be printed within a short time.

There have been some changes in the project requirements which meet the needs of the girls at the present time.

M. H. Coe, Club Leader, Kansas State College, Manhattan.

#### Objectives

The objectives of the 4-H division of clothing are as follows:

To guide leadership in aiding girls to -

1. Gain an understanding and appreciation of good appearance in dress.
2. Develop skill and good judgment in the selection and maintenance of a satisfactory wardrobe.
3. Obtain what is economically correct, according to the living conditions of the whole family.
4. Advance designs which are hygienic and aesthetic, for the best interests of youth.

The divisions, each of which covers a year's work, are as follows:

1. Housework costumes.  
Make simple articles by the use of correct tools, materials, and processes.
2. Summer costumes.  
Make simple cotton garments by applying design and construction principles.
3. Winter costumes.  
Manage woolen garments by applying design and construction principles.
4. Ensembles.  
Study of wardrobe selection and management in relation to the ideals of good living.

Two 4-H club clothing leaders were notified, and in most cases attended the adult training schools of the county. These leaders in turn gave those phases which could be applied directly to 4-H club project work to other 4-H club leaders and the girls in their groups.

Loretta McElmurry, Clothing, Kansas State College, Manhattan.

#### Louisiana

The 4-H club girl who won the parish school-dress contest in Claiborne Parish displayed her sack dress at the women's contest along with articles

made from sacks, such as household articles, children's clothing, and other dresses of her own.

The sack-dress pageant at the Caddo Parish Fair was participated in by 50 club women, 12 junior girls, 10 smaller girls, and 2 little boys aged 4 and 5, all wearing dresses and suits made from sacks.

One mother told the agent that her daughter had stopped school because she had nothing to wear, but since seeing the pageant she had four new sack dresses and was back in school.

Gladys Tappan, District Home Demonstration Agent,  
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

### Maryland

First-year clubs followed program as outlined in "trig and trim" bulletin.

Goals set up:

1. Better care of clothing at home and school.
2. 75 percent enrollment completing.
3. Higher standard of work.
4. Hold spring and fall achievement day.

Goals reached:

1. Girls report doing more mending and pressing of clothes.
2. 69 percent plus, completed work.
3. Oraville, Hickory Hill, Great Mills, Red Gates, and Clements improved their standard of work.
4. Five achievement-day programs and exhibits were held during May and June.

Second, third, and fourth-year clubs followed the program in "summer clothes" bulletin as follows:

Goals:

1. Do all darning of own stockings.
2. Clean dresses and berets.
3. 75 percent of enrollment completing.
4. Higher standard of work.
5. Hold spring and fall achievement day.

Goals reached:

1. Approximately 40 percent of the older girls took care of their own stockings.
2. 30 percent took care of their dresses.



3. 68 percent plus, completed work.
4. St. Michael's and Little Flower clubs raised their standard of work.
5. Little Flower Club held achievement-day program and exhibition on May 30.

Graduates at St. Michael's made their dresses.

One of the oldest clubs, Oraville, has made the greatest improvement as a club, in spirit, standard of work, attendance, and being prepared at meetings, of any of the county clubs. Seven new members have been enrolled during the year. The Red Cross made it possible for two of the members to complete their work, by giving materials for undergarments and school dresses. One small girl has been supplied with materials by the teacher and her fellow club members. Achievement day is an annual affair at Oraville. The exhibit and program in 1933 showed great improvement in the standard of work and in the development of the girls.

Ethel Joy, Home Demonstration Agent, Leonardtown, St. Marys Co.

## Massachusetts

### Leadership

The general trend in all our girls' work is toward the homemaker and the older club girl, rather than the teacher as leader. In Middlesex County 10 years ago, practically all leaders were teachers. In 1933, teachers were the exception, and this is true now in the majority of counties. Women who have been in home demonstration agent's groups and older girls who have been in successful clothing-club groups, seem to make the most satisfactory leaders. Many of our teachers are splendid leaders, but someone who is a permanent member of the community gives a feeling of permanency to the club, and having the club organized out of school connects it a little more with the homes. This is especially true when the meetings are held in the girls' homes.

Marion E. Forbes, Assistant State Club Leader, Massachusetts State College, Amherst.

## Minnesota

### Thrift Project

The thrift project met with greater interest than ever before, and at no time before have we had such lovely exhibits made out of flour and feed sacks as we had at all subdistrict contests this year. Beautiful workmanship was shown in the bleaching and finishing of the sacks, and clever ideas were shown in using them to advantage in good-looking dresses. The children's garments were particularly outstanding, not only in attractiveness in workmanship but also from the standpoint of self-help features. The grand-champion thrift outfit was a 2-piece dress with a swagger coat and hat, trimmed in a



brown print gingham. The outfit was smart looking, and would be taken for linen, except upon close examination.

T. A. Erickson, State Club Leader, Department of Agriculture,  
University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn.

### Mississippi

Over 300 4-H club girls, home demonstration club members, and friends, attended the county-wide cotton-dress style show held at the Hinds County Junior College, in Raymond. This marked the end of the first 6 months of the clothing project carried on by club members of Hinds County. The work was conducted by the home demonstration agent and clothing leaders, under the supervision of Ouida Midkiff, clothing specialist, of Mississippi State College.

The clothing program has not been just a matter of making clothes, but of making them artistically and economically; of learning to use the farm income to advantage, and to dress better in bad times on far less money.

Community style shows were held in each club, and the highest-scoring dresses were selected in each group to go into the county contest.

As the community winners passed in review, one was impressed by the excellent styles and colors shown by the different types of garments. Many ideas which had been a part of the clothing program were displayed in the garments.

Each woman and girl modeled her own frock, and was judged by her appearance. The dresses were also judged separately for construction. Interesting facts about the dresses reveal that the average time spent in making the house dress or school dress was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and the cost was 50 cents. The street frock took  $5\frac{1}{2}$  hours, and the cost was \$1.75. The party frock was a little more elaborate, and required  $7\frac{1}{2}$  hours, at a cost of \$2.40. The women and girls of Hinds County have shown that it does pay to do their own sewing.

Margaret Cresswell, Home Demonstration Agent, Jackson,  
Hinds County.

### Montana

My Club Story. Evelyn Bjorge. - "Yesterday, I conducted a little private achievement-day program and judging contest, to which I invited my mother and my dear friends, me and myself. Arranged upon a table in a neat row lay the stockings whose holes I'd darned with such tremendous care, the hand towel I'd hemmed, the pot holder which had caused me so much grief when I attempted to make the edges meet, and lastly the breakfast cloth whose eight decorative parrots gave no indication of the part they'd played in my schooling in the virtue of patience. Nearby also, were an apron and a school dress, which lent quite an air to a wardrobe on display.

"In the course of the afternoon, my mother and I discussed club work in

general, and its benefits to me in particular; this is what we decided:

"To the rural boy or girl, the practical experience afforded by a 4-H club is invaluable in several ways. One of these is the knowledge gained in the particular project taken up by the individual. For instance, I myself, although of mid-teen age, knew very little about the essentials of sewing. The making of doll clothes, when I was extremely youthful and, later, embroidery, had been the extent of my achievements in the sewing line. It goes without saying, then, that a new course of study was opened up to me when I joined the Busy Stitchers' Club. Certainly, all girls ought to be able to boast the feminine accomplishments of sewing and cooking, and a 4-H club gives each one a chance to do just that."

Gwendolyn A. Watts, Home Demonstration Agent, Glendive,  
McCone Co.

### Nebraska

Long-time goals emphasized in clothing clubs:

1. To cultivate among rural girls a desire to be well dressed.
2. To learn how to dress well by developing the powers of judgment and appreciation in recognizing beautiful, appropriate, and becoming clothes.
3. To acquire the habit of using thought in selecting the garments for the wardrobe for every occasion.
4. To gain an appreciation of the time, labor, and skill involved in the making of garments.
5. To develop ability in the construction of garments which can be satisfactorily made at home.
6. To gain knowledge in the care and repair of clothing to keep it looking well and to prolong its usefulness.
7. To gain experience in keeping accounts through the use of record and clothing account books.

In addition to these long-time goals, two other goals were emphasized:

8. That the club function in the community as a social element.
9. That no girl be deprived of the benefits of club work because of economic conditions.

The methods of meeting the goals were:

Two series of subject-matter and club-management meetings carried into each county in the clothing cycle.

A series of district judging schools.

A series of county demonstration days.

Emphasis of club activities at fairs.

Organization and preparation of a clothing unit in the Fix-It project to aid those who could not enroll in a clothing club. The Fix-It Club emphasizes recreation, and makes it possible to continue in club work with

almost no cash outlay.

Two subject-matter and club-management leader training meetings were held in northwestern Nebraska, where the new clothing project, Summer Clothes for 4-H Girls, was the cycle. This included 11 one-agent counties, 8 two-agent counties, and 1 nonagent county.

#### Illustrative Material and Kits

A Learning-to-Sew kit was prepared and made available for Learning-to-Sew leaders. Clothing exhibits containing illustrative materials were obtained, and made available for leader-training meetings. These exhibits included:

1. Bureau of Home Economics exhibit of children's clothes.
2. The spool cotton exhibit of "Fashion Finishes."
3. The National Club Congress clothing exhibits.
4. County-champion garments.

Film strips were used to advantage in each leader-training meeting, and were made available for home agent counties. The films used were:

1. Nebraska 4-H Clothing Clubs.
2. Posture.
3. Feet and Shoes.
4. Fitting Dresses and Blouses.
5. Opportunity comes to the 4-H Girl.

These films were used to emphasize methods, practices, and activities.

#### Literature

The second of three clothing circulars, Summer Clothes for the 4-H Girl, was prepared. This circular consists of 60 pages and 62 illustrations, with a cover designed by Miss Barada, a student in design under Bess Stelle, who kindly cooperated by having students submit cover designs for the three clothing bulletins.

Carolina Ruby, of the resident staff, assisted with the preparation of the subject matter. Clothing score cards were revised with the assistance of Grace Morton, head of clothing at the University of Nebraska, and Helen Rocke, State clothing specialist.

L. I. Frisbie, State Extension Agent, Boys' and Girls' Clubs,  
College of Agriculture, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

#### New Hampshire

#### Objectives

The objectives of the clothing project are to teach -

1. The fundamentals in sewing, emphasizing the use of the thimble, and use and care of the sewing machine.
2. Selection of materials; styles, and colors best suited to the individual.
3. Construction, care, repair, and renovation of clothes.
4. The use and importance of a clothing budget.
5. What it means to be "well dressed."
6. And to encourage the girls to help with the family mending.

At the beginning of the year the leaders checked what the girls already knew, then decided on the teaching goals for the coming year. When the projects were completed the leaders again checked on what the club members knew. It was found that out of 109 girls reported by the leaders, 40 had well-equipped sewing boxes; 40 had learned to use the thimble; 31 had learned to use and care for the sewing machine.

During the year 34 had learned to darn; 5 had learned to patch; 40 had improved the daily care of clothing; 23 had learned new methods of laundering; and 4 had learned how to remove at least 3 stains each.

Twenty-seven of these girls made underwear for the first time; 20 made dresses; 20 learned how to use commercial patterns; 5 learned the alteration of patterns; 20 learned new seam finishes, and 48 learned new stitches.

Twenty-two learned to select their own materials; 26 learned color selection and what colors were best suited to them; and 24 improved in selection of styles for themselves.

The leaders reported that 34 girls improved in personal appearance by following recommendations on good grooming. They also reported that 49 were doing their own mending and helping with the family's mending.

Ten girls have used a personal clothing expense record, listing the clothing on hand and the clothing bought during the year, with a record of the price. These expenses ranged from \$5.40 to \$15.73 per girl.

Ruth C. Weston, Club Agent, Keene, Cheshire Co.

#### Special Clothing Objectives, Grafton County

1. To have club members learn identification of textile fibers.
2. To get more definite information on results of 4-H club work.
3. To have every club do some judging.

#### Procedure:

1. Actual samples of cloth were taken to club meetings to illustrate textile fibers. These samples were marked with small numbered tags. After the girls had identified as many of the materials as they knew, we then corrected their lists and studied those that were not known.
2. An attempt was made this year to get more definite information



on the results in clothing work, such as total number of articles that were made over, and the number of articles made for relief work.

3. A leaders' letter was sent to all leaders of judging. Part of the year, articles of clothing were borrowed from club members to use at club meetings for practice in judging.

A county-wide judging contest was held at the annual field day.

Results:

1. Besides giving instructions in textiles at club meetings, a class for instruction in textiles was held at the annual county camp. At the close of the class a quiz was given to find out just how many kinds of cloth could be identified. The older members collected and mounted samples of cloth in their textile notebooks. After the samples were mounted, the price, width, and use of the material were written in the notebooks.
2. Clothing members this year did 673 hours of mending. They also made a total of 2,088 articles in comparison with 1,473 in 1932. After a thimble demonstration was given one day at a rural school, the teacher sent the agent a list of her children, saying that 16 of her pupils, including boys and girls, had learned to use a thimble. This practice has been emphasized this year, as a great many members have not been using a thimble.
3. Local judging contests were held in individual clubs during the year. The assistant club agent trained club members in clubs where the leader did not feel capable of training them. S. W. DeQuoy, Club Agent, and Edna Fitch, Assistant, Woodsville, Grafton Co.

As there is the largest enrollment in clothing, two major contests were carried on in 1933.

There were 80 girls over 15 who enrolled in the 4-H "club girl's school outfit" contest; 150 girls from 10 to 15 enrolled in the "dollar-dress" contest; and 100 said they would try out for the "thrift" contest.

The contest for the girls over 15 proved interesting. In the different counties the agents sent out rules of the contest, on which there were return slips to be sent to the county club agent and to the assistant State club leader.

Then in a few weeks, the assistant State club leader started on a tour of the State, meeting as many of the girls who had enrolled in the dollar-dress and school girl's outfit contests as possible. The meetings were all-day affairs. In the forenoon, selection of materials, styles adapted to the different girls, and general construction were taken up. In the afternoon, color



readings were given, and a study of the types of collars suited to various individuals was made. This was the first year "collars" had been tried out, and the result was satisfactory.

These meetings seemed to fill a real need, and, as both leaders and girls were present, much interest was developed. One agent said it was one of the most valuable lessons ever received by her girls in this work.

All counties which entered the contests were visited by the assistant State club leader, and about 175 girls and women attended the meetings.

Later on, at field days, picnics, and special meetings, county contests were held. In many counties the dress revues, in which both the dollar-dress and the school girl's outfits were shown, were most successful. They gave the people a chance to see the dresses the girls had made being worn by the girls themselves, and that's the real test. A dress may have beautiful material and fine workmanship, but if it is not becoming to the girl and suited to the time and place when worn, it is not satisfactory.

For the first time, many of the girls realized that style and color were as important, if not more so, than workmanship.

At the county contests the girls had a chance to see what each had done.  
Mary L. Sanborn, Assistant Club Leader, University of New  
Hampshire, Durham.

#### Heart "H" Activities

Twenty-nine clubs in Cheshire County have reported doing 74 acts of service during the past year. They have helped 39 organizations and 181 individuals. They made 170 articles of clothing for the needy and 47 jars of canned goods were donated.

The Flying Fingers Club of Marlboro made 16 pairs of mittens and gave them to needy children; made a patchwork quilt and gave it to the Red Cross; dressed six dolls for the Boy Scouts to give away Christmas; gave Christmas baskets to shut-ins; collected tin foil for the Shriners' Hospital; and gave a 4-H program for the Women's Club.

The Modern Priscilla Club of South Keene, gave 9 dresses, 2 coats, 4 undergarments, 4 pairs of mittens, and a basket of food valued at \$2.50 to the needy during the past year.

Other Heart "H" work by the various clubs includes making Christmas wreaths for shut-ins, buying project material for needy club members, waiting on table, taking part in public entertainments, hemming dish towels for the Ladies' Aid, making a layette for the State Welfare Nurse, giving a Thanksgiving dinner to the school nurse, a Christmas party for poor children, and collecting and distributing second-hand clothing.

Ruth C. Weston, Club Agent, Keene, Cheshire Co.

New Jersey

The 4-H clubs again offered a means of getting clothing information to young people, and so clothing clubs took an important place in extension activities in the county. In addition to the usual construction principles taught through garment making, two other units were of especial interest, namely: the "self-help clothes" unit, and the "how to dress well on what is available" unit, both of which made a special appeal to the older 4-H club girls.

In one group, a preschool child was in the immediate family of every girl. It was easy, therefore, to introduce such a project as self-help clothes. Fitting and style were real problems. A desire to know how to make worked buttonholes grew naturally from working in this unit. The girls discovered for themselves that neither snaps nor hooks would be effective on children's rompers. This need, plus that discovered in Red Cross activities, where the making of boys' blouses and men's shirts demanded a knowledge of how to make buttonholes, ultimately resulted in requiring every 4-H club girl in the county to make at least two buttonholes as a part of the minimum requirements to become a "standard" club member.

The "how-to-dress-well" unit proved an intensely interesting piece of work to the older girls. Clothing costs, one of the items studied, brought forth an unusual amount of interest. Nine girls of the Pitman club inventoried their wardrobes, and found that new clothing purchased in the past year alone cost from \$70, as the low figure, to \$200, as the high figure. They kept account of silk-stocking bills, and were startled at what they found. A study of clothing budgets in relation to family income left no doubt in these girls' minds that they had more than their portion. When the unit was begun, each girl in turn declared that she had "nothing to wear", but at the end of the project their attitude toward "old clothes" was much more tolerant.

Mary M. Leaming, Home Demonstration Agent, Woodbury,  
Gloucester Co.

North Carolina

The following statistics are State figures on 4-H clothing-club girls' projects.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Number</u>
Counties carrying clothing as a major project.....	14
Members enrolled in clothing project.....	8,843
Members completing clothing project.....	5,432
Members following recommendations in improving construction of clothing.....	4,122
Members keeping clothing budget.....	845
Members improving children's clothing according to recommendations.....	1,155
Members following recommendations in improving care, renovation and remodeling of clothing.....	3,466

The following excerpt, taken from the report of the home agent for Alamance County, will give an idea of how 4-H clothing projects are planned and conducted.

"The major project for girls this year has been clothing. The girls followed the same general outline as the women did, and had the following demonstrations:

1. Sewing equipment.
2. Care and use of sewing machine.
3. Fitted slips.
4. Seam and edge finishes for underwear.
5. Bloomers and brassieres fitted to individual.
6. Selecting style and material for a school dress.
7. Fitting a school dress.
8. Finishes and accessories for a school dress.

"Some other demonstrations were given to special groups by the leaders, but the ones listed were the club demonstrations. All the girls discussed the clothing budget and kept records of all the garments made."

Ruth Current, District Club Leader, North Carolina State College of Agriculture, Raleigh.

#### North Dakota

##### Ultimate goals:

1. That each girl enrolled in club work plan her wardrobe with due consideration of the basic principles of art, health, and economy.
2. That she be suitably, artistically, and healthfully dressed on the amount of money assigned to her clothing budget.
3. That she understand the principles and proper methods of clothing construction in order to be able to make the required garments for the year's work, and simple household articles as well.

##### Immediate goals:

1. To have 2,500 girls enrolled in clothing-club work.
2. To have 75 percent completions, according to requirements of each year of work.
3. To conduct junior clothing leaders' training meetings in 30 counties - in counties with or without extension agents, having three or more organized clothing clubs. Specialists' material to be sent as exhibits to home agent counties following spring training meeting.
4. To have 75 county or State demonstration teams.
5. To have at least 120 clothing-club exhibits or booths at county or local shows.
6. To have clothing exhibits at district and State fairs.



7. To encourage style shows for the county for selection of contestant for the State contest.
  8. To continue the style-show contest at the achievement institute.
  9. To send State exhibits to National Club Congress in 1933.
  10. To encourage clubs to hold local achievement days.
- Inez La Bossier and Clothing Assistants, North Dakota Agricultural College, State College, Fargo.

#### "Press as You Sew" Theme for 4-H Clothing Training Meeting

"Not many girls have realized the importance of pressing during the making of a garment as well as after it is finished, in order to give it a professional and tailored look when finished", Edna Sommerfield, extension specialist in clothing from the agricultural college, told twenty-five 4-H clothing-club leaders and delegates from eight 4-H clubs in the county who met in the city hall at Cleveland, November 21, and at Jamestown, November 22, for their regular fall clothing-leaders all-day training meeting. The meeting was arranged by Magdalene Heiberg, home demonstration agent, who has direct charge of the club work in the county.

Miss Sommerfield also stated that club girls can be interested in pressing if they realize the need for it, are taught the fundamental pressing principles, and are allowed to use or help to make and assemble the pressing equipment in the home.

The demonstration showed how simple home equipment could be made, and used. Points in the pressing of cotton and wool, and handling of special problems were given. A thorough pressing after the garment is completed is most essential to give it a tailored look, but does not take the place of careful pressing during construction. Both are necessary to obtain best results.

In addition, suggestions were given as to suitable styles, materials, and construction principles for the fall school outfit. A cotton and a wool outfit were used to illustrate many of the points in the demonstration.

Preceding the demonstration time was given for discussion of club problems, when Miss Heiberg gave a summary of the club work by 4-H clubs in the county during the past year, and discussed some of the goals for the new year with the club leaders. A short period of recreation was directed by Miss Sommerfield.

Magdalene L. Heiberg, Home Demonstration Agent, Jamestown,  
Stutsman Co.

#### Rhode Island

##### Goals:

Well-dressed girls.  
Good buymanship.  
Skill.

Appropriate clothing.

Clothes that fit the personality of the wearer.

Methods:

Practically all the goals are implied in the first one stated. Whatever the method employed, if it produces better-dressed girls, it should be used. Demonstrations, judging, and observation are the three methods commonly used in all clothing clubs. An added incentive to make complete outfits has been provided in the National Dress Revue contest at Chicago. This has a definite effect on the local club where there are older members.

Two clubs went to the down-town department stores with their leader to select material for dresses. In most of the clubs, however, the girls visited the stores and remnant rooms nearby. Most of our members are near cotton, velvet, or woolen mills. They are able to get very good material at a much lower cost than would be possible in the regular stores. The girls compare prices, and report at their regular meetings. They not only know the value of materials, but they have made some study of the comparative wearing life of a home-made and a ready-made dress. The county and club plan of work is so arranged that the member naturally takes advantage of the seasonal sales in the larger department stores. For instance, underwear is the chief topic in every plan of work in January, when all the stores are having their white sales.

Skill is taught in various ways by each different leader. Some leaders start their members by having them make simple articles for Christmas gifts, and some start right off with dresses. Whatever the starting point, all members score their own and each other's work, to determine what they need to improve during the year.

The girl's natural desire for clothes is a powerful incentive to acquire skill in handling her needle and sewing machine. A well-known sewing machine company has been liberal with sewing charts for beginners in machine work. The doll patterns put out by a large publishing firm offer excellent training in the use of patterns. One leader judged all the articles made at first by her members. She put a piece of paper, pinned to the cloth, where the workmanship could be improved next time, but did not tell the girl what was wrong. The girls had fun finding out their mistakes and all did correct them in their next article.

Dorothea Hoxie, Club Agent, Providence, Providence and Bristol Counties.

Texas

Each club has a clothing demonstrator; the rest of the girls are co-operators. The clothing demonstrators were required to do the following:

1. Take inventory of clothing on hand.
2. Care for and repair own clothing.
3. Provide adequate storage space.



4. Plan entire wardrobe.
5. Keep clothing accounts.
6. Make a minimum of four articles or garments selected from the following list:

Work clothes -

Cook apron  
Cup towel or kitchen towel.  
Smock or work dress.

Dresses -

School dress.  
Sports dress.  
"Nice" dress.

Undergarments and lounging garments -

Slip.  
Suit of underwear consisting of brassiere, bloomers, step-ins, shorts.  
Pajamas.  
Gown.  
Kimono or robe.

7. Assist cooperators to achieve their goals.
8. Submit the following to the home demonstration agent:

Enrollment card.  
Individual report card.  
Report card for each cooperator.  
Narrative which will include -

The story of the demonstration (with pictures where possible).  
A summary of the accomplishments of the club in the demonstration.

To put the work over, the home demonstration agents gave demonstrations on planning an entire wardrobe, how to take inventory of clothing on hand, how to keep clothing accounts, care and repair of clothing, storage needs, selection of material, and construction problems. The demonstrations in each county were based on the goals set for the cooperators in that county.

Some of the agents had sponsors to help the girls. The sponsors would see to it that the girls completed a certain amount of work before the next morning.

Clothing leaflets, illustrative material on seam finishes and buttonholes,

and clothing account books were left with the girls. The material left depended upon the work being done.

Besides getting out literature, the extension specialist in clothing held conferences with the agents, helped to plan their demonstrations, to set goals for the cooperators, obtained illustrative material, visited girls' clubs, and gave demonstrations.

To make more of the girls realize what it costs to clothe them, some of the counties had the cooperators keep clothing accounts.

This year the girls have taken an interest in personal grooming and posture and are including that phase of the work in their 1934 goals. Several home demonstration agents have told the extension specialist in clothing that they have asked girls what they wanted club work to do for them, and the girls have said: "To learn to be more attractive." The girls are realizing that good posture and good grooming are a means to that end, and are asking for personal grooming programs. In several counties this type of program was given; the extension specialist in clothing arrived in Grimes County just in time to see part of the program.

A beauty-parlor woman gave a simple shampoo and manicure that the girls could give themselves at home, and talked to them on the importance of keeping their skin clean. A dentist talked to the girls about the importance of keeping their teeth clean, showing how teeth should be cleaned and brushed, and telling them how to care for them.

Dora Barnes, Clothing, Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, College Station.

#### Dallas County

Six thousand garments were mended by 693 Dallas County 4-H girls during 1933. At 10 cents a garment mended, these results had a value of \$600. There were 370 sewing boxes equipped.

"What happened to Jill when Jack broke his crown", was the theme song of 31 demonstrations in mending given to 4-H girls' clubs in Dallas County by Alpha Lynn, assistant county home demonstration agent, during January 1933.

Because the fall that Jack and Jill took was sufficiently hard to crack Jack's crown, it was concluded that Jill had seriously damaged her clothing - even if her head didn't crack. Consequently, the demonstration, divided into five parts, included -

1. Sewing up runners in Jill's hose.
2. Darning the hole in the elbow of Jill's sweater.
3. Patching the tear in Jill's new dress.
4. Sewing on shoulder straps, hooks, eyes, snaps, which had popped off from the fall.
5. Equipping Jill's sewing box, so that she could keep her clothes in repair.

Ruth Clark and Alpha Lynn, Home Demonstration Agents, Hall of Records, Dallas County.

## Kaufman County

Local sponsors, usually home demonstration club women, were selected to help the agent and the girls to carry out their work in clothing by assisting both demonstrators and cooperators in reaching their goals. The sponsor held one meeting with girls each month, carrying out the agents' plans, and helped with the other meetings.

Since the demonstrator's aim was to provide a harmonious and economical wardrobe which would meet her need, she would reach the following goals:

1. Take an inventory of her clothing on hand, in order that she would know what she needed to buy and what she had in best possible condition.
2. Care for and repair her clothing - put what she had in best possible condition.
3. Provide adequate storage for her clothing.
4. Plan her entire wardrobe.
5. Keep her clothing accounts for a year, showing what part of her income was spent for clothing.
6. Make four articles needed for herself. They could be selected from work for clothing.
7. Assist cooperators, if possible, in reaching their goals.

Every girl who was not a demonstrator was a cooperator, and would attain the following goals:

1. Repair clothing.
2. Make two articles, an undergarment and a dress.
3. Improve or provide some storage for clothing.

As a result, six girls were enrolled as demonstrators, with six completing the demonstration; and 157 girls were enrolled as cooperators, with 130 completing goals set for cooperators. A total of 932 garments were made, valued at \$1,107.50

Golden Fry, Home Demonstration Agent, Kaufman, Kaufman Co.

## Utah

The ultimate goal of the four clothing phases is a complete costume selected and constructed, using the following information:

1. Healthful, sanitary, durable undergarments as taught in phases 1, 2 and 3.
2. Shoes and hose which are comfortable, durable, and in harmony with the costume as to color, style, and texture - from clothing 1, 2, 3, and 4.

3. Dress or suit and hat which are becoming in color design and texture to the personality; which is durable in relation to cost, easily and inexpensively cleaned, and suited to the occasions on which it will be worn - clothing 2, 3, and 4.
4. Accessories which enhance the costume, which may be used with others, and which are proportionate in cost and quality to the ensemble - clothing 4.
5. Workmanship and the selection of durable and suitable finishes become a consideration of every part of the costume - clothing 1, 2, 3, 4.

Eleven of the home-science groups majored in clothing, and every girl in the 29 groups made an inventory. A total of 2,045 members in junior and senior clubs made 12,119 articles, of which 805 were remodeled. In addition, every girl patches and darns during her four phases of work.

Ten counties conducted style revues and 10 girls entered the State contest with silk, wool, and velvet costumes.

D. P. Murray, Club Leader, Agricultural College of Utah,  
Logan.

## Virginia

### Clothing Program

#### Plan:

The purpose of the clothing program for 4-H club girls is to establish good standards of dress for the rural girl. To accomplish this, the increasing needs of the girl are considered and presented in a 3-year program. A different phase is developed each year along two major lines:

1. Selection and construction of an outfit appropriate for 4-H club girls.
2. The study of related subjects, such as values of materials, intelligent buying, proper styles of clothes, shoes and accessories; the daily care of garments; proper posture and standards of health.

Though standards of good workmanship in garment construction are stressed throughout the program, the main emphasis is directed towards the girl herself so that she may, by understanding her individual problems, learn to dress suitably and economically.

#### General Requirements:

To complete the project each member must have met these requirements:



1. Complete specific requirements for each project.
2. Make and use a 4-H club book.
3. Enter demonstration, judging, and growth work, and other contests for which she is eligible and has the time to do well.
4. Give at least one demonstration before her club.
5. Take part in club meetings and in all other club activities, such as rally and achievement days and exhibits.
6. Fill in report blank given her at the October meeting.
7. Work to attain standards set for the health "H", as outlined in the growth work program.
8. In all matters follow instructions of home demonstration agent.

Every 4-H club girl should be able to:

1. Preside at any club meeting, serve as secretary, and be an efficient chairman of a committee.
2. Assist club leader when possible, share in planning and executing club program, keep 4-H club book up to date, give a well-planned demonstration, make a talk and enter into discussions, exhibit her handiwork at club meetings and fairs, take a fair share in community activities.
3. Assume definite responsibility in the home, dignify home work by practicing the best methods, be a gracious hostess and welcome guest.
4. Live up to standards of growth-work program, practice correct food and posture habits.
5. Dress appropriately at all times.
6. Appreciate the good things of life such as music, literature, and nature lore.
7. Cultivate a hobby that will help her to grow.
8. Help some other girl to attain her goal.
9. Work and play with others.

#### The Club Girl's Home Outfit

First year

Purpose:

To help each girl to select, make, and care for suitable home outfit as a first step toward attaining her goal of "being well dressed at all times." To emphasize the value of good posture in the home as well as on the street.

#### The Club Girl's School Outfit

Second year

Purpose:

To have each girl select, buy, and make a suitable school outfit for herself. To encourage in each girl self-reliance in dealing



with such problems as adjusting patterns, styles, materials, and accessories; care of clothing; and keeping accurate clothing accounts.

### The Club Girl's Afternoon or Church Outfit

Third year

#### Purpose:

To have each girl select and make for herself an outfit suitable for afternoon or church wear. This should include accessories suitable to costume and occasion. To encourage every girl to study herself and her problems, that she may dress well on a limited income if necessary.

To teach every girl the value of time, labor and money through -

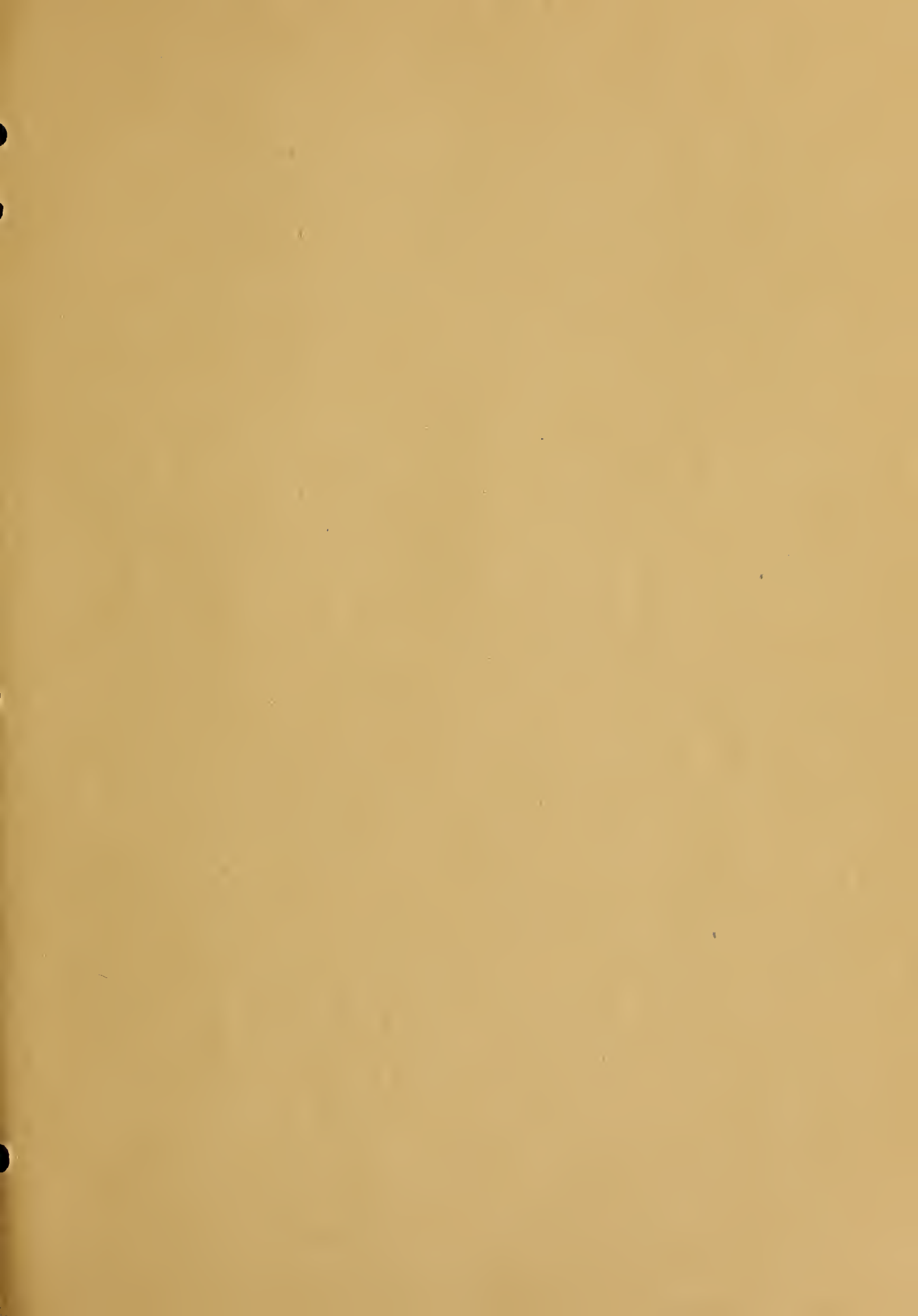
1. Making a clothing budget.
2. Keeping clothing accounts.
3. Making an annual or seasonal inventory of clothing on hand.
4. Learning to make an intelligent comparison of the value of the home and ready-made garment and to decide which is better value.
5. Studying the problems of selection, construction, and care of clothes.

From clothing-club literature included in Virginia State annual report.

Twenty-two of the Haymarket High School girls worked on a children's clothing project in which they made 33 garments for the county Red Cross chapter. The actual accomplishment was made possible through the study of children's clothing.

Sarah Pitts, Home Demonstration Agent, Manassas, Prince William Co.





# 4-H Clothing Clubs

*Excerpts from 1933 Annual Reports of  
State and County Extension Agents*

RECEIVED AT THE  
OFFICE OF THE  
DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION  
APR - 6 1935  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
Extension Service ..... **C. W. WARBURTON** Director  
Division of Cooperative Extension ..... **C. B. SMITH** Chief  
Washington, D.C.